

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

COMPOSITE BRIDGE EXPANSION JOINT

Abstract of the Disclosure

An expansion joint is provided for joining adjacent sections of a structure. The expansion joint includes a first generally planar member that is configured to allow sliding of a first portion of at least one section of a structure thereon. Second and third generally planar members are attachable to a second portion of the at least one section of the structure receivable thereon. The second and third members are substantially co-planar with each other and are substantially parallel to the first member. The second and third members are vertically spaced-apart from the first member. An expansion device is interposed between the second and third members. The expansion device is attachable to a support member that supports the at least one section of the structure thereon. The expansion device accommodates expansion and contraction due to thermal effects of the second and third members and maintains horizontal alignment.